PLANT FACT SHEET

Grewia caffra Meisn.

GENUS *Grewia* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Climbing wild raisin, Spiny Grewia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves

The fruit are eaten fresh or dry.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It can have many stems and be a rambling shrub. It can also climb. It grows up to 4 m tall. The trunk can be 30 cm across. It can have large spines. The older stems are square. The young twigs are hairy. The leaves are sword shaped and bright green. They have fine teeth along the edge. They are 2-5 cm long and 0.8-2.5 cm wide. They taper to a point. The base is often wedge shaped and lopsided. The flowers are oblong and have stalks. They are yellow and like stars. They are produced in the axils of leaves. The fruit are round and fleshy. They are 1 cm across. They can be yellow to red. They are edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows on the edges of forest and on sand dunes. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

There are about 200 Grewia species. They are mostly tropical. The fruit of most may be edible. These were in the families Sparrmanniaceae and the Tiliaceae.

REFERENCES

Awodoyin, R.O., Olubode, O.S., Ogbu, J.U., Balogun, R.B., Nwawuisi, J.U. and Orji, K.O., 2015, Indigenous Fruit Trees of Tropical Africa: Status, Opportunity for Development and Biodiversity Management. Agricultural Sciences, 6, 31-41

Cunningham, 1985,

Facciola, S., 1998, Cornucopia 2: a Source Book of Edible Plants. Kampong Publications, p 241

FAO, 1988, Traditional Food Plants, FAO Food and Nutrition Paper 42. FAO Rome p 306

Fox, F. W. & Young, M. E. N., 1982, Food from the Veld. Delta Books. p 351

Long, C., 2005, Swaziland's Flora - siSwati names and Uses http://www.sntc.org.sz/flora/

Ogle & Grivetti, 1985,

Peters, C. R., O'Brien, E. M., and Drummond, R.B., 1992, Edible Wild plants of Sub-saharan Africa. Kew. p 191

Palgrave, K.C., 1996, Trees of Southern Africa. Struik Publishers. p 570

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (1999). Survey of Economic Plants for Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (SEPASAL) database. Published on the Internet; http://www.rbgkew.org.uk/ceb/sepasal/internet [Accessed 11th June 2011]

Ruiters-Welcome, A. K., 2019, Food plants of southern Africa. Ph.D. thesis. Univ. of Johannesburg p 75

Schmidt, E., Lotter, M., & McCleland, W., 2007, Trees and shrubs of Mpumalanga and Kruger National Park. Jacana Media p 402

Swaziland's Flora Database http://www.sntc.org.sz/flora

Welcome, A. K. & Van Wyk, B.-E., 2019, An inventory and analysis of the food plants of southern Africa. South African Journal of Botany 122 (2019) 136–179

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/5049f663-5c63-4085-a744-e26a3bd602ef